Docket No. PRD2077

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, please replace the paragraph that begins on line 25 and ends on page 2, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

Neurokinins belong to a family of short peptides that are widely distributed in the mammalian central and peripheral nervous system (Bertrand and Geppetti, *Trends Pharmacol. Sci.* 17:255-259 (1996) ; Lundberg, *Can. J. Physiol. Pharmacol.* 73:908-914 (1995) ; Maggi, *Gen. Pharmacol* 26:911-944 (1995) ; Regoli *et al.*, *Pharmacol. Rev.* 46 (1994)). They share the common C-terminal sequence ~~Phe-Xaa-Gly-Leu-Met-NH_2~~. Neurokinins released from peripheral sensory nerve endings are believed to be involved in neurogenic inflammation. In the spinal cord/central nervous system, neurokinins may play a role in pain transmission/perception and in some autonomic reflexes and behaviors. The three major neurokinins are Substance P (SP), Neurokinin A (NK_A) and Neurokinin B (NK_B) with preferential affinity for three distinct receptor subtypes, termed NK_1, NK_2, and NK_3, respectively. However, functional studies on cloned receptors suggest strong functional cross-interaction between the 3 neurokinins and their corresponding receptors (Maggi and Schwartz, *Trends Pharmacol. Sci.* 18: 351-355 (1997)). Species differences in structure of NK_1 receptors are responsible for species-related potency differences of NK_1 antagonists (Maggi, *Gen. Pharmacol.* 26:911-944 (1995) ; Regoli *et al.*, *Pharmacol. Rev.* 46(4):551-599 (1994)). The human NK_1 receptor closely resembles the NK_1 receptor of guinea-pigs and gerbils but differs markedly from the NK_1 receptor of rodents. The development of neurokinin antagonists has led to date to a series of peptide compounds of which might be anticipated that they are metabolically too labile to be employed as pharmaceutically active substances (Longmore J. *et al.*, *DN&P* 8(1):5-23 (1995)). NK_1-antagonists have been studied for a wide variety of indications including emesis, (stress-related) anxiety states, inflammatory responses, smooth muscle contraction and pain perception. NK_1-antagonists are in development for indications such as emesis, anxiety and depression, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), circadian rhythm disturbances, visceral pain, neurogenic inflammation, asthma, micturition disorders, pancreatitis and nociception.